tag, 89.8 per cent of rural population of the country is expected to be covered by terrestrial transmission.

(c) A sum of Rs. 256.00 crores has been approved for Doordarshan in the Annoal Plan 1994-95. During the current financial year, a High Power (1 KW) Transmitters at Cuttack and 9 Low Power Transmitters have been commissioned till date. The remaining projects targeted for commissioning during 1994-95 are at various stages of implementation.

Under Utilisation of Funds by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

7594 SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Communications has rapped the Ministry of Information and Broadcaslting for under-utilisation of funds allocated to it for the first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the said Committee has also pointed out that though the Plan outlay for Doordarshan is Rs. 2,300 crores, only Rs. 176.25 crores have been utilised as against an outlay of Rs. 265 crores in 1992-93;

(c) what are the factors that have been responsible for this low utilisation of funds;

(d) whether the Committee has also recommended that Doordarshan should dicourage telecasting of programmes which are not in consonance with the ethos and values of the Indian society; and

(e) if so, to what extent the Ministry plans to implement all the recommenda tions in 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Standing Committee on Communication in its seventh report pertaining to the demands for grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has expressed concern about underutilisation of plan funds by various media units under the Ministry during the first two years of the eighth plan.

(b) The committee has observed that the eighth plan outlay for Doordarshan is Rs. 2300.00 crores and in "" 1992-93, as against a budget provision of Rs. 265.16 crores only Rs. 176.25 crores had been utilised.

(r) The major reasons for shortfall in expenditure as noted by the committed are slow progress of civil works, delay in supply of equipments, non-sanctioning of staffIschemes by the competent authority etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The recommendations of the committee have been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities for implementing the recommendations pertaining to them and to take remedial action in respect of deficiencies pointed out by the Standing Committee on Communication with a view to ensure utilisation of the plan funds in a purposeful and optimal manner.

Illegal Entry of Foreign Newspapers

7595. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some foreign newspapers published abroad are entering India, without any permission from Government;

(b) if so, whether such a step is violating the statutory laws; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take against such foreign newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH

DEO): (a) Under the existing laws, no foreign publisher is allowed to print and publish any foreign newspaper in the country. However, import/entry of foreign newspapers is permitted.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Increased Advertisements of Cosmetics and Detergents

7596. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a spate of advertisements of cosmetics and detergents on the electronics media of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of these items cause pollution;

(c) whether Government propose to ensure that these facts are included in the advertisements and written on the labels fixed on carton or containers of these items; and

(d) if so, when such decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO); (a) Yes, Sir. Cosmetics and detergents account for a sizeable proportion of advertisement on electronic media.

(b) Inputs of some detergents may cause water pollution.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environ ment and Forest has evolved Environ mental Criteria for cosmetics and deter gents under the scheme of Ecomark for promotion of environmentally friendly cosmetics and detergents among consu mers.

Nonas for contracts for power projects

7597. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms prescribed under the two part tariff notification for awarding contracts for power projects;

(b) what are the details of projets in respect of which contracts have been awarded in deviation of the prescribed norms;

(c) what are the reasons for such deviation in each case- and!

(d) when the contracts in respect of each project were awarded and at what cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The 2 part tariff system is applicable to thermal generating companies. The first part would ensure recovery of fixed costs, viz. interest on loan capital, depreciation, O&M expenses at a normative level, taxes on income, if any, and a return on equity at a particular level of generation with a provision for higher returns at specified higher levels of generation and in- terest on working capital. The second part ensures meeting of variable expenses and comprises actual cost of primary and secondary fuels.

(b) to (d) It is within the competence of State Government to award specific projects to private generating companies State Electricity Board negotiate and conclude Power Purchase Agreements for bulk supply of power with private generating companies. The projects whoso PPAs have been referred to Government for acceptance of the deviations is listed at. Statement along with the details of date of agreement and the provisional cost.